

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Sub 1 R 2*
1. A method for information monitoring, delivery, and notification comprising:
    - 3 receiving a request for information;
    - 4 receiving criteria for delivery of the requested information;
    - 5 monitoring an information source for satisfaction of the delivery criteria;
    - 7 delivering the requested information from the information source to an Internet-enabled television system in response to the delivery criteria being satisfied; and
    - 10 notifying a user concerning the delivered information using the Internet-enabled television system.
  1. 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
    - 2 reserving a communication channel for delivery of the requested information.
  1. 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the reserved communication channel comprises an MPEG channel.
  1. 4. The method of claim 3, wherein reserving a communication channel comprises:
    - 3 storing an indication of the reserved MPEG channel within a private information indexing table; and
    - 5 transmitting the private information indexing table to the Internet-enabled television system.

- 1               5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
  - 2               setting an information monitoring trigger within the Internet-enabled
  - 3               television system for detecting information received on the reserved MPEG
  - 4               channel.
- 1               6. The method of claim 3, wherein delivering comprises:
  - 2               retrieving the requested information from the information source;
  - 3               encoding the requested information for transmission using the
  - 4               reserved MPEG channel; and
  - 5               transmitting the encoded information to the Internet-enabled
  - 6               television using a cable delivery network.
- 1               7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - 2               receiving a user selection of a notification format for the delivered
  - 3               information.
- 1               8. The method of claim 7, wherein notifying a user comprises:
  - 2               notifying the user concerning the delivered information using the
  - 3               selected notification format.
- 1               9. The method of claim 1, wherein receiving a request for
- 2               information comprises:
  - 3               providing a hierarchically-arranged list of information categories;
  - 4               and
  - 5               receiving a user selection of an information category from the
  - 6               hierarchically-arranged list.

1           10. The method of claim 1, wherein the Internet-enabled  
2 television system provides a graphical user interface, and wherein notifying a  
3 user comprises:

4                 displaying the delivered information in a designated area of the  
5 graphical user interface.

1           11. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2                 superimposing the delivered information over a television program  
3 displayed by the Internet-enabled television system.

1           12. The method of claim 11, wherein superimposing the  
2 delivered information comprises:  
3                 horizontally scrolling the superimposed information in a ticker  
4 format.

1           13. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2                 displaying a delivery notice on the Internet-enabled television  
3 system; and  
4                 displaying the delivered information on the Internet-enabled  
5 television system in response to a subsequent user action.

1           14. The method of claim 1, wherein notifying a user comprises:  
2                 sending an e-mail message to the user comprising a notice of the  
3 delivered information.

1           15. A system for information monitoring, delivery, and notification  
2 comprising:

3                   a user registration component configured to receive a request for  
4 information and to receive criteria for delivery of the requested information;  
5                   an information monitoring component configured to monitor an  
6 information source for satisfaction of the delivery criteria;  
7                   an information delivery component configured to deliver the  
8 requested information from the information source to an Internet-enabled  
9 television system in response to the delivery criteria being satisfied; and  
10                  a user notification component within the Internet-enabled television  
11 system configured to notify a user concerning the delivered information.

1                 16. The system of claim 15, further comprising:  
2                   a communication channel reservation component configured to  
3 reserve a communication channel for delivery of the requested information.

1                 17. The system of claim 15, wherein the reserved  
2 communication channel comprises an MPEG channel.

1                 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the communication channel  
2 reservation component is further configured to store an indication of the reserved  
3 MPEG channel within a private information indexing table and transmit the private  
4 information indexing table to the Internet-enabled television system.

1                 19. The system of claim 18, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to set an information monitoring trigger for  
3 detecting information received on the reserved MPEG channel.

1                 20. The system of claim 15, wherein the information delivery  
2 component is further configured to retrieve the requested information from the

3 information source, encode the requested information for transmission using the  
4 reserved MPEG channel, and transmit the encoded information to the Internet-  
5 enabled television using a cable delivery network.

1               21. The system of claim 15, wherein the user registration  
2 component is further configured to receive a user selection of a notification format  
3 for the delivered information.

1               22. The system of claim 21, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to notify the user concerning the delivered  
3 information using the selected notification format.

1               23. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to provide a hierarchically-arranged list of  
3 information categories and receive a user selection of an information category  
4 from the hierarchically-arranged list.

1               24. The system of claim 15, wherein the Internet-enabled  
2 television system provides a graphical user interface, and wherein the notification  
3 component is further configured to display the delivered information in a  
4 designated area of the graphical user interface.

1               25. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to superimpose the delivered information over a  
3 television program displayed by the Internet-enabled television system.

1               26. The system of claim 25, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to horizontally scroll the superimposed  
3 information in a ticker format.

1           27. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to display a delivery notice on the Internet-  
3 enabled television system and displaying the delivered information on the  
4 Internet-enabled television system in response to a subsequent user action.

1           28. The system of claim 15, wherein the user notification  
2 component is further configured to send an e-mail message to the user  
3 comprising a notice of the delivered information.

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